

**REMARKS**

The preceding amendment to the specification of the above-captioned divisional application is made, in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 120, to insert a specific reference to earlier filed parent application U.S. Non-provisional Application No. 09/856,219, filed on September 24, 2001, which is a national stage application, under 35 U.S.C. § 371, of international application PCT/EP99/08507, filed November 5, 1999, which claims the priority of the filing date of German Patent Application No. 19853476.0, filed November 19, 1998.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that this application is now ready for allowance. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (213) 896-6665.

Respectfully submitted,

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